



Discovering resources. Planting values.

Conducting business abroad requires a special desire to understand the host country's particular needs, and a willingness to address them in a serious way. A prime example is the copper-rich Challhuahuacho District of the Cotabambas Province in **Peru**.

Xstrata, a major global diversified mining group, recently began exploration of the Las Bambas copper mine, at an altitude of 4,000 meters. As with any large-scale venture, the project was sure to have an impact on the local community. So, before even setting foot on the site, Xstrata was determined to go in with a clear and solid plan to implement initiatives that would bring genuine value to the people most affected.

But to accomplish this, Xstrata needed a remote-site partner specializing in sustainable action – one that could deliver tangible long-term benefits to the local community and maintain positive relations with the authorities there. Sodexo, with its active Foundation for Sustainable Development in Peru, proved to be the ideal candidate. In addition to the expertise and infrastructure needed to succeed, Sodexo had something even more compelling: a proven high-impact program that was perfectly adapted to the mission.



This project has been developed in the framework of the Better Tomorrow Plan, Sodexo's worldwide sustainability roadmap. As part of its 14 commitments and within the "Local communities" priority, Sodexo has defined a global commitment to action: "We will support local community development in all the countries where we operate by 2015."
Discover more at sodexo.com



Quality of Daily Life Solutions



Empowering neighboring communities



THE NEEDS WERE OBVIOUS

Xstrata's strategic objectives were centered on maintaining the highest standards of health, safety and environmental performance, while supporting the core principles of sustainable development. Since some residents had to be relocated before the project could begin, Xstrata was compelled to give them something back – something that could improve their future for years to come.

The goal would be to train workers, support local suppliers, and help educate the population. However, due to a multitude of challenges, this would be no easy task. For starters, local establishments had virtually no sanitary regulations on food products. Additionally, the water was undrinkable and basic public services were scarce. But even worse, the local population was largely uneducated, and many children suffered from malnutrition in these remote regions of Peru. All in all, there were huge obstacles to overcome.



A THREE-TIER ACTION PLAN

In the framework of its Better Tomorrow Plan, Sodexo established an ambitious three-step strategy.

Step one was to **offer people effective job training**. By teaming up with local authorities and health representatives, Sodexo launched a technical- and managerial-enhancement project based on hospitality, cooking and restaurant service courses.

Step two was to **help local companies** raise their quality standards and then solicit them as key suppliers. By training and monitoring producers on how to guarantee higher standards, Sodexo was able to utilize close-proximity suppliers in order to purchase everything from trout and red onions to aromatic plants.

Step three was to **offer basic education classes** to the general population. This included technical training to the Fuerabamba community – a people trapped in extreme poverty and social segregation – to encourage them to start their own small businesses. It also consisted of nutritional courses for mothers, most of whom were especially needy.



A PLAN THAT'S PAYING OFF

The plan has been yielding positive results. In just nine months, 51 people were trained in hospitality or restaurant service, with 48 receiving certificates. In addition to tourism and health and safety exhibitions, Sodexo provided technical and managerial support to 15 accommodation and food establishments, nine of which earned full Service Quality Certification. **"People are no longer limited to just finding a job,"** explains Valentin Choquenaira, general manager of the Las Bambas Project. **"Now many are able to develop their own!"**

Today local suppliers play a key role in daily operations. For example, Sodexo introduced new equipment and infrastructure improvements to Virgen de Fatima, the local bakery. As a result, the bakery now supplies Sodexo with 360,000 loaves of bread monthly!

Thanks to valuable initiatives and tangible improvements, Sodexo's contract was recently renewed for two more years, while the construction phase of the project will start in 2011.

On-site Service Solutions provided by Sodexo

Freshwater treatment - Wastewater treatment - Waste collection and management - Generator maintenance - Gardening - Outside cleaning - Camp maintenance - Electrical, plumbing and carpentry work - Gym trainer - Entertainment center management - Convenience store - Housekeeping - Laundry - Food services